

REMARKS

Claims 1-38 were examined. Upon entry of the present amendment, claims 1-2, 6-9, 12, 29 and 37 are amended, and claims 5, 18 and 36 are canceled. Thus, claims 1-4, 6-17, 19-35 and 37-38 are pending. Claims 22-28 are allowed. Applicants hereby request further examination and reconsideration of the application in view of the following remarks.

Claims 1-17, 19-21, 29-35 and 38 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by McBride et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,923,752). Claims 18, 36, and 37 were objected to as being dependent upon rejected base claims, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Independent claim 1 more particularly recites a mobile telephone comprising "a circuit board assembly for supporting at least one functional component of the mobile telephone; and a shell for substantially enclosing the circuit board assembly and at least one functional component, wherein the shell is molded onto the circuit board assembly and the at least one functional component so that the shell at least substantially encapsulates the circuit board assembly and the at least one functional component." McBride et al. fails to disclose, teach or suggest a mobile telephone having a shell that is molded onto a circuit board assembly and functional components attached thereto so that the shell at least substantially encapsulates the circuit board assembly and the functional components as claimed. Instead, as previously pointed out, McBride et al. discloses a replaceable outer cover that is attached to the housing of a personal communication device via a clasp so that users can change the color of the device by exchanging one outer cover for another. McBride et al. nowhere describes the outer cover is molded directly onto the mobile telephone's circuit board assembly. Instead, McBride et al. discloses that the outer cover is a *separately molded* plastic part that is attached to and removed from the housing of the device by the user. Consequently, McBride et al. fails to disclose, teach or suggest a shell that is molded onto a circuit board assembly and the at least one functional component so that the shell at least substantially encapsulates the circuit board assembly and the at least one functional component, as presently claimed. Thus, for at least these reasons, independent claim 1 and dependent claims 2-4 and 6-11 are believed to be patentable over the McBride et al. reference.

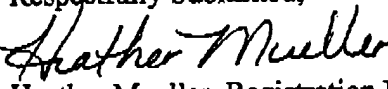
Claims 12 and 29 have been amended to present the allowable subject matter of claims 18 and 36, respectively, in independent form. Claims 18 and 36 have been canceled. Accordingly, it is believed that claims 12-17, 19-21, 29-35 and 37-38 are in condition for allowance, and withdrawal of the rejection of these claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) is requested. However, Applicants do not acquiesce to the rejections of claims 12-21 and 29-35 and 38 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and reserves the right to present claims drawn to the same or similar subject matter for consideration in a continuing application. Moreover, Applicants reserve the right to withdraw the present amendments to claims 12 and 29, and traverse the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102 should the Patent Office assert additional new grounds for rejection of the claims presently indicated as being allowable.

CONCLUSION

In view of the forgoing, it is submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance. Issuance of the present application as a patent is therefore solicited.

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